

SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 2000
PUBLIC LAW 110-343
TITLE II PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM
USDA FOREST SERVICE

Name of Resource Advisory Committee: **Olympic**
Project Number (Assigned by Designated Federal Official):
Funding Fiscal Year(s): **2014**

2. Project Name: Mason County-Hood Canal Ranger District Cooperative Noxious Weed Control	3a. State: Washington 3b. County(s): Mason
4. Project Submitted By: Patricia Grover on behalf of the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board and the Hood Canal Ranger District	5. Date: March 28, 2014
6. Contact Phone Number: (360) 427-9670X592	7. Contact E-mail: PatriciaG@co.mason.wa.us

8. Project Location:	
a. National Forest(s): Olympic	b. Forest Service District: Hood Canal
c. Location (Township-Range-Section) Township <u>19N</u> Range <u>1-6W</u> Section(s) _____ Township <u>20N</u> Range <u>1-6W</u> Section(s) _____ Township <u>21N</u> Range <u>1-6W</u> Section(s) _____ Township <u>22N</u> Range <u>1-6W</u> Section(s) _____ Township <u>23N</u> Range <u>1-6W</u> Section(s) _____ Township <u>24N</u> Range <u>1-6W</u> Section(s) _____ Within Mason County	

9. Project Goals and Objectives: The primary goal of this project is to stop the spread of noxious weed species, reduce existing populations and prevent the introduction of additional non-native plant species onto National Forest lands. In addition, the project seeks to protect ecosystems from the impacts of invasive plants through an integrated approach that emphasizes prevention, early detection and early response or treatment (EDRR). The project will continue to develop and strengthen cooperative working relationships between the public, landowners and agencies managing public lands. Public education and outreach will remain key components of the program's efforts at meeting the requirements of RCW 17.10.

10. Project Description: a. Brief: The project will facilitate the detection and treatment of noxious and invasive weed infestations on National Forest lands, bridge the jurisdictional gap to ensure that neighboring properties with infestations do not degrade National Forest natural resources, and deliver education and technical assistance regarding the impacts and control of noxious weeds to residents of, and visitors to, Mason county.
--

b. Detailed:

Funding of this project would support the continued development of a comprehensive noxious weed control program in Mason County, including the Hood Canal Ranger District of the Olympic National Forest. Activities would include:

- **Survey, identification and documentation of noxious weeds**
- **Utilizing best available science to develop and implement treatment plans for the control of noxious weeds**
- **Monitoring the effectiveness of treatments**
- **Training of Forest Service, WCC and Mason County employees in safe and effective use of herbicides**
- **Recommend and facilitate the use of bio-control agents where appropriate**
- **Coordination of actions and communication between county, state, tribal and Federal jurisdictions**
- **Public education of noxious weed impacts and methods for control**
- **Noxious weed survey and control efforts targeting rock quarries and pits within Mason County.**

Title II funding since 2005 has afforded Mason County and the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board the opportunity to develop a Noxious Weed Control program which is responsive to the needs of the Mason County public and collaborative with other agencies and groups. Program funding provides training opportunities to staff, partners, and volunteers, while employing several local residents. Continued Title II funding will allow the Mason County Noxious Weed Control program to be an active participant in the protection of National Forest lands from the threat of invasive species.

On federal lands, the project will implement the Olympic National Forest Integrated Weed Management Program. Olympic National Forest personnel develop an annual Project List which identifies known infestations, or key project areas, targeted for control. Control of noxious weeds is prioritized along roads and trails, in campgrounds and gravel pits. These areas serve as primary vectors for new weed invasions between land ownerships and into lands previously uninfested by noxious, or invasive, weed species. Additional activities will include continued educational outreach at multiple events throughout Mason County, monitoring of previously identified sites (with emphasis on areas where weeds have been controlled in previous years), and surveying and mapping additional areas as time allows.

The Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board will provide the vital link to private land owners whose weeds threaten federal lands. This project would support county weed control efforts that complement Forest Service efforts to protect vital natural resources in areas where uncontrolled noxious weed populations on federal, state, county, and private lands are spreading and hindering control activities between different jurisdictional boundaries. The program will implement control measures using the most effective mix of treatments in accordance with the Forest Service Regional/Local EIS and State/County guidelines for state land and county rights-of-way.

The program may utilize WCC crews or other Natural Resource crews to control the largest infestations. Crewmembers would learn natural resource skills and gain experience that may yield future employment in noxious weed control or habitat restoration. Weed control would be accomplished utilizing manual methods and Forest Service approved herbicide treatments. Locally-hired Weed Board staff would train, direct and document work.

Educational outreach through Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board's participation at events throughout Mason County will increase public awareness of noxious weeds and the problems they create by directing programs at members of the community who work, live near, or recreate in the Olympic National Forest. There continues to be a high level of public interest in the program's displays at events such as Matlock's Old Timers' Historical Fair, the Mason Area Fair and Oysterfest. Title II funding will ensure continued participation in such events.

The project will include follow-up activities and monitoring. Agency representatives will meet regularly to communicate progress and to revise project direction as necessary.

11. Types of Lands Involved?

State/Private/Other lands involved? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Land Status:

If Yes, specify: **Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board personnel will coordinate control efforts on private properties or other non-federal areas with invasive weed species with potential to degrade Forest Service land and natural resources.**

12. How does the proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation? (Check at least 1)

☐ Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure.

☒ Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems.

☒ Restores and improves land health.

☐ Restores water quality

13. Project Type

a. Check all that apply: (check at least 1)

☐ Road Maintenance

☐ Trail Maintenance

☐ Road Decommission/Obliteration

☐ Trail Obliteration

☐ Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify):

☐ Soil Productivity Improvement

☒ Forest Health Improvement

☒ Watershed Restoration & Maintenance

☒ Wildlife Habitat Restoration

☒ Fish Habitat Restoration

☒ Control of Noxious Weeds

☐ Reestablish Native Species

☐ Fuels Management/Fire Prevention

☐ Implement CWPP Project

☐ Other Project Type (specify):

b. Primary Purpose (select only 1): **Control of Noxious Weeds**

14. Identify What the Project Will Accomplish

Miles of road maintained: **80 miles surveyed/treated for invasive plants**

Miles of road decommissioned/obliterated:

Number of structures maintained/improved:

Acres of soil productivity improved:

Miles of stream/river restored/improved:
Miles of fish habitat restored/improved:
Acres of native species reestablished:
Miles of trail maintained:
Miles of trial obliterated:
Acres of forest health improved (including fuels reduction): See acres of noxious weeds and invasive plants controlled.
Acres of rangeland improved:
Acres of wildlife habitat restored/improved: See acres of noxious weeds and invasive plants controlled.
Acres of noxious weeds controlled: 150 acres, includes miles of road controlled
Timber volume generated:
Jobs generated in full time equivalents (FTE) to nearest tenth. One FTE is 52 forty hour weeks: 0.7
People reached (for environmental education projects/fire prevention): 20,000
Direct economic activity benefit:
Other:

15. Estimated Project Start Date: 07/01/14	16. Estimated Project Completion Date: Ongoing
---	---

17. List known partnerships or collaborative opportunities.

Jefferson, Clallam, Cowlitz, Gray's Harbor, Kitsap, Pierce, King, and Thurston County Weed Boards, Mason County Public Works, Olympic National Park, Mason Conservation District, Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board, Washington State Departments of Agriculture, Fish and Wildlife, Natural Resources, and Transportation, Tacoma Power, Washington State University Extension, Mason County Master Gardeners, University of Washington Sea Grant, City of Shelton, Great Peninsula Conservancy, Capital Land Trust, Forterra, Green Diamond Resource Company, Skokomish and Squaxin Tribes and numerous community groups and clubs.

18. Identify benefits to communities.

This project will improve overall forest health and natural watershed functions while preserving multiple economic and recreational uses of the forest. By preventing the spread of invasive plant species to neighboring landowners, economic use of private property is also preserved. Funding from this proposal would enhance the Mason County weed program's ability to directly contribute to the preservation of clean water, agriculture and healthy forests, natural resources vital to the economy of Mason County.

19. How does the project benefit federal lands/resources?

Noxious weeds negatively impact federal lands in multiple ways. They impede forest regeneration, degrade fish habitat, choke waterways and can replace beneficial plants with non-palatable or poisonous species. By controlling, removing and preventing noxious weed

infestations, this project improves general watershed and forest health while preserving the aesthetic beauty, and the economic and recreational uses of the forest.

20. What is the Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment? (check at least 1)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Workforce
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Workforce	<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant	<input type="checkbox"/> Agreement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Americorps	<input type="checkbox"/> YCC/CCC Crews
<input type="checkbox"/> Job Corps	<input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship Contract
<input type="checkbox"/> Merchantable Timber Pilot	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):

21. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Materials? ☐ Yes ☒ No

22. Anticipated Project Costs
a. Title II Funds Requested: \$38,184.00
b. Is this a multi-year funding request? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

23. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding:
Mason County/Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board - \$9,556.00 in-kind

24. Monitoring Plan (provide as attachment)

- Provide a plan that describes your process for tracking and explaining the effects of this project on your environmental and community goals outlined above.
- Identify who will conduct the monitoring:
- Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Worksheet 1, Item k):

25. Identify remedies for failure to comply with the terms of the agreement.

If project cannot be completed under the terms of this agreement:

- ☐ Unused funds will be returned to the RAC account.
- ☒ Other, please explain: If weed projects are not completed within a certain treatment window, we will extend the completion date until it can be done. If there are additional funds not expended at the end of the agreement, we will produce more treatment acreage until the funds are exhausted.

Project Recommended By:

/s/ (*INSERT Signature*)
Chairperson

Resource Advisory Committee

Project Approved By:

/s/ (*INSERT Signature*)
Forest Supervisor

National Forest

Project Cost Analysis Worksheet

Worksheet 1

Please submit this worksheet with your proposal

Item	Column A Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution	Column B Requested Title II Contribution	Column C Other Contributions	Column D Total Available Funds
a. Field Work & Site Surveys				
b. NEPA/CEQA				
c. ESA Consultation				
d. Permit Acquisition				
e. Project Design & Engineering				
f. Contract/Grant Preparation	2,000.00			2,000.00
g. Contract/Grant Administration			1,632.00	1,632.00
h. Contract/Grant Cost				
i. Salaries	4,000.00	29,440.00	5,524.00	38,964.00
j. Materials & Supplies		400.00	1,200.00	1,600.00
k. Monitoring*	2,000.00			2,000.00
l. Other (storage, vehicle, travel)		2,585.00	1,200.00	3,785.00
m. Project Sub-Total	8,000.00	32,425.00	9,556.00	49,981.00
n. Indirect Costs @ 17.76% County		5,759.00		5,759.00
o. Total Cost Estimate	8,000.00	38,184.00	9,556.00	55,740.00

NOTES:

- a. Pre-NEPA Costs
- g. Includes Contracting/Grant Officer Representative (COR) costs. Excludes Contracting/Grant Officer costs.
- i. Cost of implementing project
- l. Examples include overhead charges from other partners, vehicles, equipment rentals, travel, etc.
- n. Contracting/Grant Officer costs, if needed, are included as part of Indirect Costs.

***Monitoring is included in salary as part of the overall project costs.**

Mason County – Hood Canal Ranger District Cooperative Noxious Weed Control Monitoring Plan

Monitoring and measuring progress of the Mason County – Hood Canal Ranger District Cooperative Noxious Weed Control project is built into the program on several levels.

Before treatments begin each season, a project plan is developed by USDA Forest Service personnel utilizing project planning documents, survey data and contractual and Weed Board treatment data. This document contains the Forest Service's highest priorities and includes treatment acres. In the spring, Forest Service and county Weed Board staff meet to understand specific goals for the year, how the work is to be documented, and discuss any new developments, needs, or items of special concern.

Seasonal field crews are trained and supervised by licensed Weed Board staff *at minimum* until they obtain a Washington State applicator's license. Field crews monitor previously treated areas, note the condition, and perform and document any necessary treatments on Forest Service FACTS forms. Consistent follow-up visits and treatments over several years are the key components of a successful invasive plant control program. Weed Board staff regularly submit reports (FACTS, monitoring reports, pit survey forms) and communicate with Forest Service staff about where and how much work has been accomplished. Often new sites or new priorities emerge during the season, and the field crew is able to respond quickly to the Forest Service's needs or adapt as actual conditions dictate. The Forest Service staff periodically inspects the treatment areas to make sure projects are on task.

At the end of each treatment season, activities are summarized and priority areas identified for the following year's treatments on Forest Service lands. Treatment information is used by the Forest Service to file compliance reports to meet ESA consultation requirements and to see whether the program is meeting the overall goals of the invasive plant program. Weed Board and Forest Service staff meet late fall to debrief. Project finances are monitored and approved by Forest Service staff